

Library

**Ashby-de-la-Zouch
Rural District Council**



ANNUAL REPORT

of the
Medical Officer of Health
including the Report of the
Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector

for the

YEAR 1954

July, 1955.

Council Offices,
South Street,
Ashby-de-la-Zouch,
Leics.

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Including the Report of the

SURVEYOR AND SANITARY INSPECTOR.

For the YEAR 1954.

June 1955.
J.W.

CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL.

Councillor Miss M. C. Fosbrooke, J.P.

VICE-CHAIRMAN.

Councillor D. E. Davies.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND PLANNING COMMITTEE.

Chairman : Councillor T.L. Yates.

Vice-Chairman : Councillor A.J. Forrester.

HOUSING COMMITTEE.

Chairman : Councillor H. Fern.

Vice-Chairman : Councillor Mrs. E. Sumnall.

WATER SUPPLY COMMITTEE.

Chairman : Councillor H. Blackett.

Vice-Chairman : Councillor T. Dodson.

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL.

J. E. R. WILKINSON.

Medical Officer of Health :

A. McM. W. Segerdal, M.D., D.P.H.

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector :

C. S. Curtis, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I., DIP. P.H.H.(Hons).

Additional Sanitary Inspector and Assistant to Surveyor :

F. H. Wynne, C.S.I.B., M.S.I.A., DIP. P.H.H.(Hons).

Chief Architectural Assistant :

F. C. E. Jolley, A.R.I.B.A.

Water Engineer and Engineering Assistant :

C. Mugglestone, A.R.I.C.S., M.R.S.I.

A faint, light-colored watermark or background image of a classical building with four prominent columns is visible across the entire page.

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2016 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b28810545>

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
ASHBY DE LA ZOUCH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Report for the Year 1954.

According to the Registrar General's estimate, the population has increased slightly from 13,820 to 13,900.

The birth rate (14.3) is lower than last year (15.9) and lower than that for England and Wales (15.2).

The death rate of infants under one year of age is 30.1, slightly higher than last year (23.2) and slightly higher than that for England and Wales (25.5).

The chief causes of death has again been mainly from diseases associated with elderly people.

Mains supplies of water continue to be satisfactory. Swopestone Village has been provided with a supply from Heather and Sinope and The Altons from the reservoir at Hoo Ash. A new standby pump has been provided at the Mill Lanes Pumping Station Heather. A scheme has been prepared for an extension of the main to the village of Lount.

Of the post war schemes of sewerage and sewage disposal, Appleby Magna and Heather are in course of construction and approval has been given for a start on Worthington. An inquiry has been held in connection with Packington and Osgathorpe and approval given in principal.

There are now 288 Cesspools in the district including 15 septic tanks constructed during the year.

34 closets were converted to the water carriage system during the year.

A scheme for a proposed swimming bath was not proceeded with, owing to the unsatisfactory water supply. It is pleasing to note the public spirited way in which the sponsors of the scheme collaborated with the Local Authority.

It will be noted that action was again necessary in connection with milk infected with Brucella Abortus, but it was not necessary to serve notices stopping the sale of milk.

32 new houses were completed during the year making a total of 494 post war houses completed. The total number of applicants for Council Houses at the end of the year was 734, and the number of applications during the year 324.

Although no houses in Clearance Areas have been demolished, three areas have been submitted to the Minister for approval. A survey has been carried out in connection with slum clearance and approximately 200 houses have been tentatively scheduled for action.

204 cases of Infectious Diseases were notified during the year including 112 cases of Measles, 51 Whooping Cough, 25 Pneumonia and 12 Scarlet Fever. There were 4 deaths from Pneumonia. Measles was notified at intervals during the whole year, but most cases occurred in the months of October, November and December.

I am pleased to report that there has again been an increase in the number of children being immunised against diphtheria, but there still remains a dangerously high percentage of children susceptible to diphtheria.

Only 7 new cases of Tuberculosis were notified during the year of which 5 were Pulmonary. There were 3 deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

To the Staff of the Public Health Department of the County Council, and to Doctor Mair, Director of the Public Health Laboratory I wish to extend my thanks for their willing help and co-operation.

At the beginning of the year Mr. J. P. Cook retired, and I should like to take the opportunity of wishing him good health in his retirement and to thank him for the help he has given in the past years. He has always devoted himself whole-heartedly to his duties and my association with him has always been the happiest.

Finally I wish to thank Mr. C. S. Curtis, Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector and to thank and welcome Mr. F. H. Wynne for their invaluable help during the year and you, Ladies and Gentlemen, for your kindness and co-operation.

I remain, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

A. McM. W. Segerdal, M.D., D.P.H.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area	...	...	...	...	28,267
Resident Population (R.G.'s estimate)	...	...	...	13,900	
Number of Inhabited Houses	...	...	...	4,212	
Rateable Value	...	...	...	£58,776	
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	£ 229	
Comparability Factor - Births	...	...	...	1.00	
Deaths	...	...	...	1.02	

The chief industries in the area are : Agriculture; Coalmining; Open cast Coal Working; Brickmaking; Stoneware and Pipemaking; and Stone Quarrying. There are also small Textile Works and Light Engineering Works.

No particular industry was noted as having a specially injurious effect on health during the year.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	113	74	187
Illegitimate	4	8	12
	<u>117</u>	<u>82</u>	<u>199</u>

Crude Birth Rate : 14.3 per 1,000 population.

Adjusted Birth Rate : 14.3 " "

England and Wales :

Birth Rate : 15.2 " "

Still Births.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	2	3	5
Illegitimate	1	0	1
	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>6</u>

Total Births.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Live and Still	120	85	205

Still Births.

Crude Still Birth Rate	:	29.2	per 1,000 total (live and Still) births
Adjusted Still Birth Rate	:	29.2	" "
England and Wales			
Still Birth Rate	:	23.4	" "

Deaths.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deaths	80	66	146
Crude Death Rate :	10.5 per 1,000 population.		
Adjusted Death Rate :	10.7 "	"	
England and Wales			
Death Rate :	11.3	"	"

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1954.

<u>DISEASES.</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	3	0	3
Tuberculosis, other	0	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	0	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung Bronchus	3	0	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	0	2	2
Other malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms	7	7	14
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	0	1
Diabetes	1	0	1
Vascular lesions of the nervous system	11	14	25
Coronary disease, angina	9	8	17
Hypertension with heart disease	0	1	1
Other heart disease	18	8	26
Other circulatory disease	3	3	6
Influenza	1	0	1
Pneumonia	3	1	4
Bronchitis	0	4	4
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	0	1	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	0	1	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	3	2	5
Hyperplasia of Prostate	2	0	2
Congenital Malformations	1	1	2
Other defined and illdefined diseases	9	11	20
Motor Vehicle accidents	3	0	3
All other accidents	1	0	1
Suicide	1	0	1
Total	80	66	146

Chief causes of death were :

Disease of Heart and Circulation	-	75
Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms	-	20
Other defined and illdefined diseases	-	20

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

Total Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 births :

Live and Still	:	0.0
Live and Still England and Wales	:	0.69

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	...	4	2	6
Illegitimate	...	0	0	0
		<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>6</u>

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

Per 1,000 Live Births	...	...	30.1
England and Wales			
Per 1,000 Live Births	...		25.5

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER FOUR WEEKS OF AGE.

		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	...	3	1	4
Illegitimate	...	0	0	0
		<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER FOUR WEEKS OF AGE.

Per 1,000 Live and Still Births	...	19.5
England and Wales		
Per 1,000 Live and Still Births		17.7

The figures for England and Wales are provisional.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

HOSPITALS.

All Hospitals except some private Maternity and Nursing Homes are under the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board.

The County Homes for the aged and destitute are under the County Council. When the inmates take ill they become the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS.

There are none actually held at your District.

Infant Welfare Clinics are held every Thursday afternoon at the Baptist School, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, and every 2nd and 4th Thursday afternoon at the Centenary Methodist Church, Donisthorpe Road, Moira. At the Health Centre, Bridge Road, Coalville, an Ante-Natal Clinic is available. The Tuberculosis Clinic is held at Markfield Sanatorium under the auspices of the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The County Council is responsible for all facilities in the County. Colliery accidents are removed by Ambulances provided by the National Coal Board stationed at Nailstone Colliery and Moira Colliery.

NURSING IN THE HOME.

All District Nursing and Midwifery in the Home is under the Leicestershire County Council.

HEALTH VISITING.

This work is provided by the Leicestershire County Council and the work of Health Visitor, School Nurse, and Tuberculosis Visitor, is combined in a single appointment.

The Diabetic Health Visitor attends the Diabetic Clinic at the Leicester Royal Infirmary and visits the patients in their homes.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The Public Health Laboratory, Isolation Hospital
Groby Road, Leicester.

The following examinations were made :-

Throat and Nose Swabs	...	...	...	4
Faeces and Urine	...	...	...	2
Blood	...	...	...	1
Sputa	...	...	...	73
Milks	...	...	...	32
Waters	...	...	...	28
Ice Cream	...	...	...	30
Whooping Cough Swabs	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	10

Generally there is co-operation between the Local Authority and the services provided by the Executive Council, and the Hospital Board, and the tendency is towards closer integration.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER SUPPLY.

Mains supplies have been satisfactory in quality and quantity, but there is still one village without a satisfactory supply.

Particulars of water supplies to dwelling houses :-

Internal Mains Water Supply		Mains water from External Standpipes		Well Water Supply.	
No. of Dwelling Houses	Pop.	No. of Dwelling Houses	Pop.	No. of Dwelling Houses	Pop.
4,171	13,626 Esti- mated	Not known	Not known	61	194 Esti- mated

Number of parishes with piped water supply :

From public mains : 15. From private reservoirs : 1

Number of parishes without a piped water supply : 1

Water Supply from Wells.

Number of Samples taken for Analysis.

Satisfactory.		Unsatisfactory.	
Chemical	Bacterio- logical.	Chemical	Bacterio- logical
Nil	1	Nil	10

Number of Wells closed - 21

Number of wells cleansed etc. - 1

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Number of cesspools constructed during the year	Nil
Number of cesspools abolished during the year	Nil
Total number in district on December 31st, 1954 :	288

Number of parishes with efficient sewage disposal Works	4
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Number of parishes where new schemes have been formulated	9
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Total number in district on 31st December, 1954 :

Privies : 326. Pail Closets : 1369. W.C's : 2534.

Number of closets converted to water carriage system during the year :

Privies : Nil Pails : 34

A grant of £10. 0. 0. or one half the cost whichever is the lesser is made towards the cost of conversion.

The contents of pails are emptied weekly and disposed of on to agricultural land and tips.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

House refuse is removed by direct labour, using 3 Karrier Bantam 7 cubic yard and one 10 cubic yard Refuse Collection Vehicles.

Number of parishes covered by routine collections : 16

House refuse is disposed of to three controlled tips and one crude tip.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA.

Total number of complaints received	82
-------------------------------------	-----	-----	----

Total number of premises at which defects or nuisances were dealt with	79
--	-----	-----	----

Total number of defects or nuisances dealt with	186
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

INSPECTIONS MADE.

Animal keeping	...	...	...	...	...	1
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	9
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	6
Drainage Works	...	...	...	...	...	342
Dwelling houses (all purposes)	...	...	...	...	...	1485
Food Premises	...	...	...	...	...	44
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	...	-
Refuse Collection and Disposal	...	...	...	...	...	205
Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	...	Carried out by Council Rodent Operator (935 visits).
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	-
Shops	...	...	...	...	...	26
Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection	...	...	...	...	...	326
Smoke Observation	...	...	...	...	...	-
Tents, Vans, Sheds etc.,	...	...	...	...	...	25
Verminous and Dirty Premises	...	...	...	...	...	5
Water Supplies	...	...	...	...	...	58
Workshops, Outworkers, etc.,	...	...	...	...	...	83
Other Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	1187
						<u>3802</u>

NOTICES.

<u>Preliminary.</u>	<u>Housing.</u>	<u>Public Health.</u>
Outstanding on January 1st, 1954	22	21
Issued during year	8	81
Complied with during year	20	85
Statutory action necessary	-	2
Outstanding 31st December, 1954	10	17

Statutory.

Outstanding on 1st January, 1954	-	10
Issued during year	-	2
Complied with during year	-	10
Outstanding 31st December, 1954	-	2

REGULATED BUILDINGS.

Regulated Buildings	No. in District	No. of Inspections	Action Taken	General Conditions
Common Lodging Houses	-	-	-	-
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.	13	25	-	-
Canal Boats	-	-	-	-
Offensive Trades	-	-	-	-

Eradication of Bed Bugs : One infested house cleansed.
Pet Animals Act, 1951 : No premises in area.
Rag, Flock & Other
Filling Materials Act, 1951 : No premises in area.
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 : Routine parish by parish inspection, private dwellings treated free, business premises on a time plus material basis, carried out by one man employed half time.
Schools : No action taken.
Swimming Baths and Pools open to the Public : None in area.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

ICE CREAM.

Number of premises registered :

Manufacture and retail	...	1
Manufacture only	...	-
Retail only	...	36 (not all these are actually retailing)

Number of Samples - 30	Results :	Grade 1	...	22
		Grade 2	...	7
		Grade 3	...	1
		Grade 4	...	-

With one exception the persons who are licensed for retail, only sell pre-packed ice cream.

MILK SUPPLY.

Dairies (Other than dairy farms) and Distributors
(Section 8, Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1949).

No. on Register	-	Dairies	2
		Distributors	19
No. of Inspections	-	Dairies	6
		Distributors	29

BIOLOGICAL MILK SAMPLES.

No. of routine bulk samples taken	...	...	77
Results satisfactory	...	...	68
Evidence of living Tuberclle Bacilli		...	1
Evidence of Brucella Abortus	...	...	8
No. of individual samples taken following a positive brucella abortus report on a routine sample	...	...	85

BACTERIOLOGICAL MILK SAMPLING.

Class.	No. of Samples	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Designated "Tuberculin Tested"	10	10	-
"Accredited"	2	2	-
"Pasteurised"	-	-	-
"Sterilised"	-	-	-
Undesignated	15	14	1

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949.

Particulars of Licences issued :

	Pasteurised	Sterilised
Dealers Licences	5	-
Supplementary Licences ...	5	-

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949.

Particulars of Licences issued :

Dealers Licences	9
Supplementary Licences ...	6

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

No. of regional slaughter houses in area	...	Nil
No. of animals slaughtered elsewhere	...	1605
No. of animals examined elsewhere	...	1605
No. of inspections of meat at time of slaughter	...	10%
No. of Knacker yards in area	...	2
No. of visits to Knacker yards	...	9

MEAT STALLS.

No. of inspections	Nil
--------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

MEAT SHOPS, MEAT STORES ETC.

No. of inspections	22
--------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

PLACES WHERE FOOD (OTHER THAN MEAT) IS KEPT OR PREPARED FOR SALE.

No. of inspections	41
--------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

NEW HOUSES.

Houses completed during year.	T Y P E		Average cost per house	Average rent incl. or excl. of rates.
	Prefab.	Permanent		
By Local Authority	-	12	N.A.	17/5d.
Private Enterprise	-	20	N.A.	N.A.
Houses in course or erection at end of year by Local Authority	-	15	N.A.	N.A.
Private Enterprise	-	17	N.A.	-

Total number of post war houses completed by Local Authority	...	...	...	388
Total number of post war houses completed by private enterprise	...	...	...	106
Total number of applicants for Council Houses at end of year	...	...	...	734
Number of applications received during year	...	...	...	324

INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING YEAR.

Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	639
Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	1342			
Number of dwelling houses included under sub-head above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	...	...	...	...	-
Number of inspections made for the purpose	...				-
Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	199	

REPAIRS - Informal Action.

Number of unfit or defective houses rendered fit as a result of informal action by the local authority under the Public Health or Housing Acts.	81
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal Notices :

By owners	...	...	...	...	...	10
By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	...	...	...	-

HOUSING ACT, 1936.

Number of dwellings made fit after service of formal notices (Sections 9, 10, 11 and 16) :

By owners	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	=
By Local Authority in default of owners									=

DEMOLITION AND CLOSING ORDERS.

Housing Act, 1936.

			<u>Number of</u>	
			Houses	Persons Displaced
Houses demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 11	...	...	1	2
Demolition orders made	...	...	6	19
Houses closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by the owners under Section 11, and still in force			-	-
Parts of buildings closed (Section 12)			-	-

Housing Act, 1949.

Closing Orders made under Section 3 (1)	...	...	...	...	...	-	-
Demolition Orders determined and Closing Orders substituted under Section 3(2)	...	...	...	...	...	-	-

Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953.

Closing Orders made under Section 10 (1)	4	3
--	----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---	---

CLEARANCE AREAS.

	<u>Number of dwelling houses demolished in the period</u>		<u>Number of persons displaced</u>
	<u>Unfit Houses</u>	<u>Other Houses</u>	

Land coloured "pink"	-	-	-
Land coloured "grey"	-	-	-

HOUSING ACT, 1936 - PART IV - OVERCROWDING.

Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year ...	Not known
Number of families dwelling therein ...	-
Number of persons dwelling therein ...	-
Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during year ...	-
Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during year ...	7
Number of persons concerned in such cases ...	37

It is not known if any cases have again become overcrowded after steps had been taken for the abatement of overcrowding.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER,
INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Infectious Diseases (other than
Tuberculosis) during 1954.

Diseases	Final No's. after correction.	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	12	0	0
Whooping Cough ...	51	0	0
Measles	112	0	0
Pneumonia	25	0	4
Erysipelas	2	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	1	0	0
Malaria (diagnosis not confirmed) ...	1	0	0
Total	204	0	4

Analysis under age Groups according to
Registrar General's Return 118d.

Age Group	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Measles
Under 1 year	0	1	4
1 - 2	0	13	18
3 - 4	4	12	21
5 - 9	8	18	56
10 - 14	0	3	5
15 - 24	0	0	2
25 and over	0	3	2
Age unknown	0	1	4
Total	12	51	112

Age Group	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Puerperal Pyrexia	Malaria
Under 5 years	6	0	0	0
5 - 14	4	0	0	0
15 - 44	7	0	1	1
45 - 64	5	1	0	0
65 and over	3	1	0	0
Age unknown	0	0	0	0
Total	25	2	1	1

Table showing Incidence of Notifiable Disease in each Parish during year 1954.

Parish	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Measles	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Puerperal Pyrexia	Malaria
Appleby Magna	-	-	10	2	-	-	-
Chilcote	-	2	-	1	-	-	-
Coleorton	-	2	3	1	1	-	-
Heather	-	1	59	-	-	-	-
Measham	3	1	1	6	1	-	-
Normanton-le-Heath	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
Oakthorpe & Donisthorpe	5	7	2	4	-	-	-
Osgathorpe	1	-	2	-	-	-	-
Packington	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ravenstone	3	9	18	1	-	-	-
Snaresstone	-	2	4	2	-	-	-
Staunton Harold	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Swannington	-	24	4	4	-	-	-
Swepstone	-	-	1	2	-	-	-
Stretton-en-le-Field	-	3	1	1	-	-	-
Worthington	-	-	5	1	-	-	-
Total	12	51	112	25	2	1	1

MEASLES.

The following table shows the incidence of Measles in each Parish Monthly.

Number of children who were immunised during the period
 1ST JANUARY - 31ST DECEMBER 1954.

Age at 31.12.54	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Totals
Primary Immunis- ation.	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	
Booster Injection	-	-	-	-	6	96	14	9	3	1	0	1	0	130
														154

STATEMENT OF PARTICULARS APPEARING IN THE
 REGISTER OF NOTIFICATIONS OF CASES OF
 TUBERCULOSIS FOR THE YEAR 1954

	Pulmonary		Non-Pul.		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Number of cases on Register at commencement of year	20	17	11	13	61
Number of cases notified for the first time during the year	4	1	0	2	7
Number of cases restored to Register	0	0	0	0	0
Number of cases added to Register and brought to notice other than by formal notification	0	0	0	0	0
Number of cases removed from the Register during the year	3	2	0	0	5
Number of cases remaining on the Register at end of year	21	16	16	15	65

TUBERCULOSIS - YEAR 1954.

	MALES		FEMALES		
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total
Cured ...	1	0	0	0	1
Left District	0	0	2	0	2
Died ...	2	0	0	0	2
Total	3	0	2	0	5

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 AND 1948.

Resume of the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the year 1954, which has already been sent to the Ministry of Labour and National Service, Orphanage Road, Watford, Herts.

PART I OF THE ACT

INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH
(INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS)

<u>Premises.</u>	<u>No. on Register.</u>	<u>No. of Inspections.</u>
Factories in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	35	63
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	4	8
Total	39	71

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

<u>Particulars</u>	<u>Number of cases in which defects were found.</u>	
	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>
<u>Sanitary Conveniences :</u>		
(a) Insufficient	1	1
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2
Total	3	3

PART VIII OF THE ACT.

OUTWORK (SECTIONS 110 AND 111).

Nature of Work.

Number of Outworkers in
August list required by
Sections 111 (1) (c).

Wearing Apparel, Making etc.,

43

P A R T 11.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
SURVEYOR AND SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Rural District Council Offices,
South Street,
Ashby-de-la-Zouch.

24th. June, 1955.

To the Chairman, Vice-Chairman
and Councillors of the Rural
District Council of Ashby-de-la-Zouch.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It affords me great pleasure to present to you this my first Annual Report. The Report being for the year ended 31st December, 1954.

My predecessor, Mr. Cook, retired in February after serving with the Council for a period of 33 years.

During the year changes in the law have occurred having a very direct bearing on the work of the department, the main one being the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954. The Minister of Housing and Local Government has now called upon all local authorities to prepare slum clearance proposals, and the Slaughter of Animals has again become a responsibility for local butchers with all the attendant problems for local authorities. There has been legislation in connection with the Slaughter of Animals, Slaughter Houses, Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and a new Food and Drugs Act, although the latter does not come into operation until a date to be fixed by the Minister.

Although only a comparatively small number of Council houses were completed during the year, a start was made on the Peggs Close Site for 102 houses at Measham (Gregory Houses), and tenders have been approved for 98 houses at Donisthorpe (Wimpey Houses).

There has been an increase in the number of private houses under construction.

Sound progress has been made with water schemes in the district with the result that there is now only one village urgently in need of water mains. A scheme has been drawn up for this village and it is felt that this should be pushed ahead as rapidly as possible.

There are still only four parishes with sewage works and of these, two in particular are badly overloaded (Measham and Ravenstone) and require enlargement. A scheme for the enlargement of the former is in hand. Work on the Appleby Magna sewerage scheme has commenced and it is thought that the Ministry should be pressed to allow the Snarestone scheme to be commenced before this finishes as a joint sewage works is to be used. Similar requests should be made for the laying of sewers to be permitted in Newbold as soon as the Worthington Scheme is commenced.

There has been an increasing demand during the year for the emptying of cesspools and as a result a cesspool emptying vehicle was placed on order. This vehicle will be used for the emptying of pans in one half of the district and should make this extremely unpleasant task slightly easier.

COMPLAINTS.

Set out below are details of the various complaints which have been received together with a table showing repairs and improvements carried out :

Complaints received	...	...	...	...	82
Premises inspected	...	...	...	...	82
Groundless complaints	...	...	...	...	3
Re-visits to work in hand	...	...	...	...	294
Premises at which nuisances abated				...	93
Nuisances detected (District Inspections)				...	15
Premises inspected	...	...	...	...	15
Re-visits to work in hand	...	...	...	...	19
Premises at which nuisances abated				...	12
Informal Notices served	...	...	...	...	89
Statutory Notices	...	...	...	...	2
 Dangerous buildings made safe			...	...	1
Pantries provided	...	...	...	...	2
W. C's repaired	...	...	...	...	4
Pan Closets repaired	...	...	...	...	1
Drains relaid, repaired, trapped or ventilated	...	...	...	...	7
Blocked drains cleared	...	...	...	...	16
Cesspools cleansed or repaired			...	...	7
Offensive accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	10
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	24
Chimneys repaired	...	...	...	...	7
Damp walls remedied	...	...	...	...	11
Doors repaired	...	...	...	...	5
Windows repaired and renewed			...	...	10
Fireplaces repaired, or new ones provided				...	9
Plastering repaired	...	...	...	...	15
Sinks provided	...	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous nuisances abated			...	...	15
Eaves gutters repaired or renewed			...	...	9
Piggeries removed	...	...	...	...	2
Floors repaired	...	...	...	...	3
Flooded cellars cleared	...	...	...	...	10
Copper pans provided, or repaired			...	...	1
Coalhouses provided	...	...	...	...	2
Dirty houses cleaned	...	...	...	...	3
Vermilion houses cleansed	...	...	...	...	1
Smoke nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	3
Animal nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	1
Hot water systems repaired	...	...	...	...	1
Dangerous wells made safe	...	...	...	...	1

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT.

Work by the Rodent Operator has continued to be carried out. In all he has visited 935 premises and carried out treatment where necessary. Sewers, refuse tips and sewage works have been treated regularly. Business premises are treated but a charge is made for this service.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Investigations were carried out into reported cases of infectious disease and any necessary steps taken. It is now a generally accepted fact that the sealing up and disinfecting of rooms has little, if any, effect and that it is better to open doors and windows and allow as much fresh air as possible to enter rooms. One advantage of sealing the rooms is possibly a psychological one, it makes the residents feel that something has been done, but it may have the effect of diverting the attention from more infectious aspects of a case.

Cases investigated	...	...	...	25
Disinfections carried out	...	...	...	3

WATER SUPPLIES.

Number of wells closed for drinking water supplies	...	...	...	21
Number of houses inspected		...	...	58
Samples taken for analysis		...	...	11
Samples unsatisfactory	...	...	...	10
Informal notices served	...	...	...	23
Statutory Notices served	...	...	...	-
Water laid on from Public Mains	...	...	...	70

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

With the decontrol of meat it became necessary to re-licence a number of disused slaughter houses. All old slaughter houses in the district were inspected and following a meeting with butchers in the district it was decided to offer licences in respect of nine slaughter houses, provided necessary works of improvement and repair were carried out. At the end of the year, work had been carried out to six slaughter houses and licences granted. Slaughtering is carried out on four days of the week and inspection takes up a considerable amount of time. One hundred per-cent inspection was carried out of all animals slaughtered.

Routine inspection of the two knacker yards has been carried out. New draft Byelaws have been issued in respect of these by the Minister.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total weight in lbs
Number killed	178	195	4	832	396	-
Number inspected	178	195	4	832	396	-
<u>All Diseases except Tuberculosis</u>						
Whole carcases condemned ...	nil	nil	nil	1	nil	51
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	32	58	nil	69	8	1217
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	18	29.7	nil	8.3	2.0	-
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole carcases condemned ...	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	14	27	nil	nil	7	1007
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis	7.9	13.8	nil	nil	1.8	

FOOD SHOPS.

Attention has been paid to cleanliness in food shops during the course of routine tasks in the district.

In addition to meat condemned in slaughterhouses the following food has been condemned as unfit for human consumption :

Luncheon Meat	...	...	...	1 tin
Tomatoes	...	...	...	1 tin
Bananas	...	...	...	3 tins
Corned Beef	...	...	...	1 tin
Cherries	...	...	...	1 tin
Apricots	...	...	...	2 tins
Ox Tongue	...	...	...	2 tins
Plums	...	...	...	1 tin
Beans	...	...	...	1 tin
Strawberries	...	...	...	9 tins

NEW DRAINAGE AND CLOSET CONVERSIONS.

Grants have continued to be made in respect of closet conversions, the amount being £10. 0. 0. or one half the cost whichever is the lesser of the two figures. The Council have now agreed to make grants towards conversions in unsewered parishes.

It is pleasing to report that in one parish (Donisthorpe) all closets which are within reasonable distance of the sewer have been connected to the water carriage systems.

Premises inspected	...	...	...	57
New drainage systems laid to sewer				7
Old drains repaired and extended	...			9
New water closets constructed to replace pan closets	...	...		34
Pail closets to replace privies	...			4
Additional W. C. accommodation provided				17
Re-visits of inspection	...	...		262
Informal Notices served by way of instruction	...	...	...	57
New drainage to septic tanks		...		5
Septic tanks provided	...	...	...	5

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

There has been continued supervision of the Public Conveniences in Measham. Damage caused by youths has, I am pleased to report, not been as great as during previous years.

NEW BUILDINGS AND EXTENSIONS.

New Industrial Buildings	...	...	...	...	1
Garages	...	...	...	...	33
New Houses by Local Authority	...	...	...	...	17
New Houses by Private Enterprise					20
Bathrooms	...	...	...	...	16
Kitchens	...	...	...	...	4
Bedrooms	...	...	...	...	1
Milking Parlour and Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	3
Offices	...	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	5
Houses drained to sewers	...	...	...	...	22
Houses drained to septic tanks	...	...	...	...	10
Water supply for Public Main	...	...	...	...	32
Houses with W. C's	...	...	...	...	32
Inspections during construction	...	...	...	...	599 (Excludes visits to new Council Houses under construction).

The new Building Byelaws have been in force throughout the year and although they have meant some slight alterations to the practices of builders in the district, particularly in connection with positioning of timber in relation to chimney flues, on the whole the Byelaws have been accepted without trouble.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT, 1947.

The department has continued to give advice and assistance wherever possible in addition to carrying out its duties under the Act.

SEWER AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS.

Inspection to sewers	...	...	...	...	48
Blockage to sewers cleared	...	...	...	...	10
Inspections whilst work in hand	...	...	...	...	36
Inspection of Sewage Works	...	...	...	...	275
Lengths of sewer relaid	...	...	...	...	2

REFUSE COLLECTION.

Owing to the extremely wet year there has been great difficulty in disposing of night soil. The emergency dumps have been overflowing despite efforts to get as much night soil as possible ploughed into arable farm land. Controlled tipping methods are now carried out at three of the refuse tips. 205 visits have been made in connection with refuse disposal during the year. Dustbins have been supplied to 391 houses. There has been a very great amount of time lost due to sickness of workmen.

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949.

During the year licences as follows were issued :

Supplementary licences to sell "Tuberculin Tested" Milk	...	...	6
Dealers licences to sell "Tuberculin Tested" Milk	...	...	9
Supplementary licences to use Special Designation "Pasteurised"			5
Dealers licence to use the Special Designation "Pasteurised"	...	...	5
Dealers licence to open and cool "Tuberculin Tested" Milk	...	...	1

Routine inspections of distributing vehicles have continued to be carried out.

During the year 77 samples of milk for biological examinations were taken.

Five farmers were confirmed as having cows in the herd giving milk infected with Brucella Abortus. In three cases the milk was sent to be pasteurised. In the other two cases the affected animals were disposed of.

The Ashby-de-la-Zouch Rural District has been included in a Specified Area and no milk other than designated milk may now be sold. This has resulted in an increase in the number of licences to sell Pasteurised and Tuberculin Tested Milk.

ICE CREAM.

There are still two premises registered for the manufacture of Ice Cream, one for hot mix and the other for cold. The premises licenced for the latter have not been used for some years.

Thirty five premises are licenced for the sale of Pre-packed Ice Cream, and one for the sale of loose Ice Cream. Routine sampling has been carried out. There have been no infringements of the Regulations.

TENTS, VANS, SHEDS.

Licences have been issued in respect of thirteen caravans. These continue to be spread throughout the district.

On application being made for a licence the applicant is requested to make an application under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947, and if this is granted an application for licencing under the Public Health Act, 1936, is put to the Council for their consideration.

Visits to Caravans	25
--------------------	-----	-----	----

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Inspection of factories	...	54
Inspection of Bakehouses	...	9

PETROLEUM.

A complete survey has been made of all premises which are licenced to sell petroleum. As a result new conditions for storage were approved by the Council and all occupiers given a period during which the premises have to be brought up to the necessary standard.

Premises licenced	...	...	37
Inspections made	...	...	115

HOUSING.

Improvement Grants.

There has been a considerable increase in the number of applications for Improvement Grants, informal applications being made in respect of 28 properties and formal applications in respect of 12. 11 of the latter have been approved and one refused.

Applications are dealt with informally in the first instance in order to save any unnecessary expense. The applicant is met at the property and the proposed improvements are discussed and advice given, including details of any necessary repair work and the applicant advised whether, in the event of a formal application being made, the Council could be recommended to approve the same.

Unfortunately there is still a tendency for applicants to be owner-occupiers rather than owners of rented houses. Every opportunity is taken to draw the attention of owners of rented houses to the possibility of aid, provided improvements are carried out.

Slum Clearance.

A survey of the district has been carried out to determine the number of houses which it is thought should be scheduled for clearance. All Category 5 houses were inspected together with any others which showed signs of serious deterioration.

Following submission of details to the Council, a Sub-Committee was formed to visit all the properties suggested for action and at the close of the year the following villages had been visited :

Measham, Oakthorpe, Donisthorpe, Ravenstone, Swannington and Colerton.

The first Clearance Orders were made by the Council on the 7th September, 1954.

Number of houses visited during preliminary survey	...	...	...	559
Number of houses put forward to the Council for action	...	...	...	199
Number of re-visits of inspection	...	...	...	273
Demolition Orders served	...	...	...	6
Closing Orders made	...	...	...	4
Clearance Orders made	...	...	...	3

In conclusion, I wish to express to you, Mr. Chairman and to the Members of the Council, my thanks for the kind way in which you have received any reports or recommendations which I have put forward and for the very considerate manner in which you have treated me.

I also wish to express my appreciation of the very willing manner in which the members of my Staff have carried out their duties; my thanks to Doctor Segerdal for his ready advice and co-operation and also to the Clerk and the remainder of the Staff of the Rural District Council for their ever ready assistance.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

C. Sturz



